GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1282
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2006
RAILWAY LINK WITH BHUTAN
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted any feasibility studies for establishment of railway links between the bordering towns of India and Bhutan;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Railways thereon; and

(d) the time by which railway links are expected to be established between the two countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b): Railways have taken up feasibility studies for establishment of railway links on the following border towns of India and Bhutan as per Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two countries in January, 2005.

1 Hasimara (West Bengal) ~ Phuentsholing (18 Kms) and bifurcation to Pasakha;

2. Kokrajhar (Assam) - Gelephu (70 Kms)

3. Pathsala (Assam) - Nanglam (40 Kms)

4. Rangia (Assam) - Samdrupjongkhar via Darranga (60 Km); and

5. Banarhat (West Bengal) - Samtse (16 Km).

The studies are at survey stage.

(c) & (d): Do not arise.